GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3332
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2005
EXPANSION OF BSNL MOBILE NETWORK
Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is planning massive expansion of its mobile network;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the estimated cost thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the extent to which BSNL is likely to earn revenue and create employment as a result of it?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) & (b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is presently engaged in expanding its mobile network to augment the network capacity by an additional 14 M lines during the current financial year. The total cost of mobile equipments for expansion is expected to be around Rs. 5,000 crores. The state-wise details of expansion is given in the Annexure. BSNL further proposes to expand its network by an additional 40 M at an estimated cost of mobile infrastructure of Rs. 13,600 crores for next two financial years.

(c) Current trends indicate that the project breaks even in around 24 months. The revenue likely to be earned is largely driven by the dynamic market conditions in the competitive environment and the purchasing power of the general public and is expected to average around Rs. 5,000 crores annually over three years. The project has a high potential to generate employment in the handset manufacturing, servicing, sales outlets, turn key infrastructure provisioning etc., which are in the public domain and being extended to BSNL. The assessment of the same is not feasible.

ANNEXURE

STATE WISE DETAILS OF EXPANSION OF BSNL MOBILE NETWORK

Sl No	Name of the Circle	Mobile Expansion in progress 05-06	Estimated Cost (in Rs. Crs.)
1.	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR	20000	7.00
2.	ANDHRA PRADESH	963000	337.05
3.	ASSAM	250000	87.50
4.	BIHAR	455000	159.25
5.	CHENNAI TD	450000	157.50
6.	CHHATTISGARH	150000	52.50
7.	GUJARAT	1050000	367.50
8.	HARYANA	528000	184.80
9.	HIMACAL PRADESH	221000	77.35
10.	JAMMU & KASHMIR	280000	98.00
11.	JHARKHAND	250000	87.50
12.	KARNATAKA	802354	280.82
13.	KERALA	950000	332.50
14.	KOLKATA TD	625000	218.75
15.	MADHYA PRADESH	450000	157.50
16.	MAHARASHTRA	1350000	472.50
17.	NORTH EAST I	100000	35.00
18.	NORTH EAST II	100000	35.00
19.	ORISSA	500000	175.00
20.	PUNJAB	900000	315.00
21.	RAJASTHAN	850000	297.50
22.	TAMIL NADU	834800	292.18
23.	UP (E)	650000	227.50
24.	UP (W)	570000	199.50
25.	UTTARANCHAL	201500	70.53
26.	WEST BENGAL	700000	245.00
	Total	14200654	4970.23

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